

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 4 and 7 - 10 are pending in this application. Claims 1 - 3 and 7 - 9 stand withdrawn as being directed to a non-elected invention.

Claims 4 - 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. Applicants have amended these claims to provide that the ET blockers are ET_A blockers. Accordingly, this rejection should no longer apply and should be withdrawn.

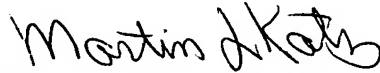
Claim 4 has also been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kirchengast et al. in view of Srivatsa et al. on the grounds that it would have been obvious to combine the endothelin blockers taught by Kirchengast et al. with the selective $\alpha_v\beta_3$ integrin antagonist taught by Srivatsa et al.

This rejection is respectfully traversed because the specifically claimed combination is not taught and it leads to a surprising effect. More specifically, the present invention permits the use of each component at a dose less than the dose useful alone, with a reduction in side effects (page 4, lines 23-27 and page 20, lines 24-30).

Claim 10 has also been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kirchengast et al. in view of Srivatsa et al. and U.S. Patent 4,761,406. This rejection is respectfully traversed for the reasons set forth above.

Reconsideration and allowance of claims 4 and 10 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Martin L. Katz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Martin" and last name "Katz" clearly distinguishable.

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